

Pastoral Council Annual Planning Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2019

Call to order @ 9:15AM

Opening Prayer: Fr. Chuck

Call the Roll:

Members Present: Al Duke, Terri Horrigan, Keith Huffer, Mic Griben, Deacon Jerry Jennings, , Deacon John Martin, Anita Gill, Stephanie Rubeling, Fr. Chuck Wible

Members Absent: Steve Browning, John Fer, Gloria Murray, Chris Jones, Alma Huffer.

Minutes Approval: Suggestion to table the September minutes until November.

Reading of Communications: NTR

Pastor's Report – Thank everyone for the success of the picnic
Committee Reports:

Old Business:

- Parish Picnic: Very successful – over 300 participants. Suggestion made to increase the number of hot dogs for next year and decrease the amount of coleslaw.

Planning Meeting Notes: Discussed Committee 2020 goals – see addendum

Education:

Children's Religious Ed.-Stacy Wright

Goal #1. To increase the variety of methods of instruction so that we are best meeting the needs of all learners (kinesthetic, visual, auditory etc.).

Goal #2. To increase the number of adult volunteers, especially those that have younger children in the program.

Adult Ministry
Carolyn Nolan

Goal #1: Work with Deacon Brendan to create a young adult group that will meet seasonally (Advent/Lent)

Goal #2: Continue on-going Marriage Enrichment opportunities

Goal #3: Continue on-going adult bible studies

Youth Ministry
Kevin Parker

1. CORE Team Investment: Inspire, grow, nurture, and enable the success of our adult volunteer team, through empowerment and involvement in planning, coordinating, and leading all aspects of our youth ministry programs, and by offering personal and team growth opportunities, such as CORE team retreats and competency-building workshops.

2. Youth engagement: Create a greater sense of community for our youth, which will increase involvement and improve retention of the 6-12th grade youth in our programs. We will offer a broader variety of service, social, and worship activities (in addition to our catechesis programs), and create youth ministry leadership and mentoring opportunities for our post-Confirmation students.

3. Parish engagement: Reach-out to and invite parent and other adult involvement in youth ministry activities, to include volunteering on the CORE teams (EDGE, ANCHOR, Confirmation Prep), chaperoning field and missionary trips (e.g., Appalachia), and organizing and leading fundraisers. Promote and advocate for our youth to become more involved in supporting and leading various aspects of our parish ministries.

Suggestions included:

- Goal to have measurable goals of involvement for all three sectors.
- Children's Religious Education
 1. Suggestion to see in next year's goal an outreach plan to parents (volunteers). How many volunteers do we currently have to help Children's Religious Education and what would be the ideal number needed?
- Adult Ministry
 2. With regards to on-going adult bible studies, it was suggested that we track the total number of participants (demographics) in different study sessions to see the progression/regression over time.



Evangelization:

- To explore ways to reach into new housing developments near the parish, e.g. homeowner associations. Lake Linganore magazine ad \$451/year.
- To seek input from others and assist in a Parish Mission/Speaker event.
- To look for ways to make the parish more welcoming, more inviting; and provide survey to get input from new parishioners

Finance:

1. Bring the Operating Budget to breakeven. Key to this will be a Stewardship “reminder” from Fr. Chuck as well as working to transition some Blue Envelope giving to operating needs.

2. Pay down the remaining mortgage balance by approximately 50% by year end leaving a balance of \$125,000 or less.
3. Better define the purpose, use and targeted reserve balances of funds accumulated from the poor box and thrift shop.
4. Work with staff to reassess where we stand on the cemetery reserves based upon remaining inventory, projected costs and current reserves.
5. Engage with the Archdiocese to discuss possible policy changes to allow for the establishment of a Cathedraticum free capital reserve fund to address major foreseeable capital repair projects in future years.

Added discussion points:

- It was discussed that there will be no major stewardship campaign until mortgage is paid in full.
- Stressed importance of increasing donations to support operating budget.
- With regards to Goal #3 - Suggested more defined purpose, specific ideas for service projects with the funds from poor box and thrift shop.

Liturgy:

- A. Continue to find ways to direct the parish to a greater reverence at Liturgy by increased parishioner participation using singing, prayer, and spoken responses in keeping with our goal of reclaiming our Sundays and other liturgical moments as sacred to the Lord.
- B. Recruit and build stronger Liturgical Ministries.
- C. Develop annual training and enrichment for all liturgical ministries.

Suggestions included:

- Request statistics on "Church Chat". How many are attending? Is it slower during specific times of the year?
- Although it's hard to quantify "reverence", it's a goal to remember.

Maintenance:

Goal: Maintain a sound and efficient physical plant

Objective 1: Physically walk the campus with key personnel

- Maintenance supervisor
- Pastoral Council maintenance committee chair

Objective 2: Develop a comprehensive maintenance plan for specific areas

- Buildings
- Infrastructure
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Campus roads and grounds
- Thrift shop
- Prioritize addressing maintenance of these areas IAW timelines: immediate, short term (3-6 months), long term (more than 6 months)

Objective 3: Coordinate all projects as appropriate with:

- Pastor
- Maintenance supervisor
- Finance committee
- Planning committee
- Pastoral Council guidance

Suggestions included:

- Add "Health and Safety Committee to Objective 3.
- Add a 4th Objective – Develop a list of maintenance project helpers who have time and talent to contribute to future projects.
- Consider the reinstatement of a "Maintenance Committee".

Planning:

- Continue to work with staff, other committees and organizations within the Parish to develop the capital reserve plan.
- Begin to add "nice to have" items to the capital reserve plan
- Develop procedures for introducing items to the planning committee.

Suggestion included:

- Suggested to have meetings four times a year.

Social Concerns:

1. Coordinate parish social concern outreach efforts: coat campaign, bags for the homeless, Christmas giving tree, outreach to Rescue Mission, and Easter Elderly giving tree.
2. Make recommendations to the Pastor on disbursement of thrift shop funds.
3. Communicate social concern efforts, events and information to the Parish.
4. Explore possibility of a sister parish.

Suggestion included:

- Under Goal #1 – It was discussed that we should not have overlapping outreach efforts.

Vocations:

Mission Statement

"The goal of the Vocations Committee is to create a vocations-friendly environment that engages our parish and archdiocesan community and inspires families to encourage, support, and call forth vocations. We will honor and support those already in their vocations, especially our pastor and deacons. We will spiritually support those discerning or already on the path to ordination or final vows through daily prayer."

Long term goals

- To promote vocations through fervent and intentional prayer
- To help parishioners (esp. youth) discern God's will for their specific vocations
- To focus on creating the environment where young people can hear and answer God's call through intentional education, invitation, inspiration and support.

- To build a culture of vocations at the parish level so that members feel encouraged to affirm young people who are discerning this call.

Short term goals

- Support seminarians through donations to Vocations Giving Cross
- Support seminarians through Christmas Care package
- Encourage and raise awareness of vocations in the parish through activities during Vocations Awareness Week in November

Suggestions included:

- Recommend to add \$250 for vocation awareness.
- We are supporting 8 seminarians through prayer.

Adjournment: @ 11:20 AM

Closing prayer: Father Chuck

Respectfully submitted by T. Horrigan

Approved @ 5 November 2019 Pastoral Council Meeting